

FORM B - BUILDING

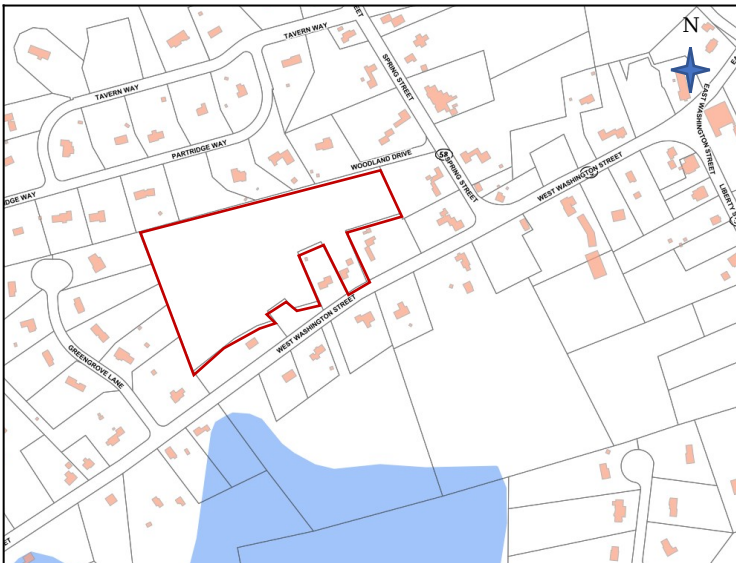
Date (*month / year*): June 2018

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL
COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Photograph



Locus Map



Recorded by: Lara Kritzer, JM Goldson
community preservation + planning

Organization: Hanson Historical Commission

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form
Number

92-0-8-0

Hanover

HNS.261

Town/City: Hanson

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):

Address: 60 West Washington Street

Historic Name: Philemon Perkins Stable/Cyrus
and Evelina Drew House

Uses: Present: Single-Family
Residential
Original: Single-Family Residential

Date of Construction: prior to 1850

Source: White's History, Plan 2 No. 55

Style/Form: Greek Revival

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Granite

Wall/Trim: Wood Shingle/Wood

Roof: Asphalt Shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures: Stone
wall along south property line (West Washington
Street), Barn/ Garage to northeast of house

Major Alterations (*with dates*): Addition to
north and east facades

Condition: Good

Moved: no ☐ yes ☒ **Date:**
1850-1851

Acreage: 8.20 Acres

Setting: Located on one of Hanson's main
thoroughfares outside of one of its commercial
centers in an area of predominantly single-family
homes ranging from early eighteenth century
farmhouses to late twentieth century suburban
development on large lots which includes grass
lawns and numerous mature trees, bushes, and
other vegetation.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

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☐ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.

Use as much space as necessary to complete the following entries, allowing text to flow onto additional continuation sheets.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

The one-and-a-half story structure has a short gable-end roof over unusually tall facades surrounding a rectangular building footprint. A shed roofed addition is located on the north façade which extends beyond the east façade of the house and a screened porch is located in the corner between the two structures. The house is wood shingle sided with wood trim on both the original house and later addition. The gable-end roof projects out over both the gable-end and gable facades with wood trimmed eaves and deep soffits over wide cornice boards. These cornice boards surround the inner edge of the gable-end pediment as well as the upper edge of the gable facades, where they wrap around the corners of the gable-end facades and are finished with a thin projecting band of trim that becomes the capital to the corner boards below. The eaves of the gable facades also wrap around the corners of the gable-end in long returns that extend beyond the corner boards below. The double hung windows on the house are wood windows which are either one-over-one or eight-over-eight in style. A rectangular brick chimney extends from the roof ridge at the north end of the gable-end structure.

The house faces south towards the street and has a small, rectangular vent at the top of the gable-end pediment. Two double hung windows extend down from the pediment on the second floor. On the first floor, the entrance is located in the left corner of the façade within a wide, flat wood board frame. The solid wood panel door is protected by a metal storm door and has a long, four-paned sidelight to either side with a short wood panel at its base. The entrance opens onto a granite step leading into the grass lawn to the south of the house. To the right of the door is an unusually wide eight-over-eight double hung window.

The west façade of the house is well screened from view by evergreen bushes but a single, wide window is visible on the gable-end house. The shed-roofed addition to the north façade is visible at the northwest corner of the building. The addition also has wood trimmed eaves and corner boards, but these are significantly simpler and narrower than the ones found on the gable-end structure. A double hung window is located at the center of its west façade, which is coplanar with the west façade of the gable-end. On its east façade, the gable-end has a single, wide divided light picture window at its center. The shed-roofed addition extends out from the northeast corner of the façade with a flat, wood trimmed section of south façade projecting up over a lower, also shed-roofed screened porch which runs the length of the façade. The roof of the screen porch covers the entire south façade of the addition, but the screens themselves are set in about a foot from each side. Below the wood trimmed eaves, the area has a wide wood cornice with wood framed screens lining the south façade of the porch and a wood French door and additional screen set in under the porch roof on the east façade. The rest of the east façade is a solid wall with a double hung window at its center.

To the northeast of the house is a large, one-and-a-half story, wood shingled barn which has been converted into a two-car garage. The barn has a longer, wider gable-end roof but its eaves, soffits and cornice are trimmed to match the main house. A vertical wood board door covers the hayloft door at the center of the façade over the two wood paneled overhead garage doors that line the first floor of the structure. A wide painted wood beam separates the two doors, which have glass panes across their second rows.

The house sits close to the road on a relatively flat lot with grass lawn stretching across the front of the property. A fieldstone wall extends from the driveway to the east property line and tall, mature trees are

Continuation sheet 3

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interspersed throughout the lawn. The asphalt paved driveway extends straight from the street past the east façade of the house to the barn. Both the east and west property lines are surrounded by trees and denser plantings, and a row of tall evergreen bushes runs across the south gable-end façade.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE:

Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

According to White's History of Hanson, this house was originally the barn built by Philemon Perkins around 1848 for the house at 48 W. Washington Street. Philemon Harlow Perkins (1814-1866), a Maine native, married Betsy Cobb, daughter of Cornelius Cobb (see 15 West Washington Street) in 1837. The Cobb and Perkins families were close both in family ties and in houses: Betsy's brother Theodore married Philemon's sister four years after Betsy married Philemon; and the 1850 census placed the two families as living next to one another. Philemon and Betsy probably moved to Hanson soon after their marriage, as he was appointed postmaster in Hanson in 1840 and the same year he represented Hanson as a representative of the General Court; in 1850, he was proprietor of a Hanson nail factory. However, Perkins and his family left Hanson by 1855 (there is no 1855 census record for him), and by 1860 he and his family were in the California goldfields (Placerville). Philemon died in San Francisco in 1866.

White states that the house and barn at 48 W. Washington Street were sold to Cyrus Drew in 1850-51, who moved the barn to its present location on a new lot to the west and turned it into a second house. The 1856 Walling Map of Hanson shows Cyrus Drew as the owner of two homes in this area, as well as a store across Willow Street to the southeast. Cyrus Drew (1820-1895) was born to Sarah Thompson and George Drew in either Halifax or Hanson. He married Evelina Donaldson in Falmouth in 1844 and was appointed as a U.S. Postmaster for Hanson in 1849. Beginning in 1850, Cyrus is listed as a merchant, grocer, and occasionally as a farmer, in both state and federal censuses through the 1880s.

In 1867, Cyrus Drew sold the house along with an acre of surrounding land to George T. Bowker, moving just to the north to another property on Spring Street.¹ George Bowker (1833-1881) was the son of Clarissa Ramsdell and Gad Bowker and a lifelong Hanson resident. He married Miranda C. Walker (1833-1895), daughter of Ruth and Clarendon Walker, in Hanson in 1855 and is initially listed in the 1850 U.S. Census as a shoemaker. By the 1860s, he was recorded as a peddler, and the 1870 federal census lists him as a "country merchant." Bowker appears as the owner of the house on the 1879 Walker Atlas, which is the first appearance of the house on its own parcel with the existing stable, noted by White to have been built by Cyrus Drew after the house was moved, attached to its northeast corner. After his death, the property was inherited by his sons, Fred and George Bowker, who transferred it Miranda C. Bowker in 1883. Fred Bowker was working as a farmer while his brother George appears to have inherited the family store and worked as a merchant. The property reverted to the brothers after Miranda's death in 1895, and in 1902 Fred Bowker sold the house to Daniel Beal.² Daniel Beal (1832-1902) was born in Rockland and had retired to Hanson with his wife, Elvira. He died of a stroke that same year and Elvira sold the property in 1903 to James H. Jenks, who worked in real estate and does not appear to have ever lived in Hanson.³ Jenks sold the house to Eugene T. Edson in 1906, who sold it again in 1909 to Napoleon F. Lauzon.⁴ Napoleon had immigrated from Montreal in 1882 and lived in Hanson with his wife, Alice,

¹ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 342, Page 125

² Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 844, Page 511

³ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 878, Page 97

⁴ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 932, Page 548; Book 1018, Page 118

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and two children while working as a superintendent for a shoe factory. In 1917, the Lauzons sold the property to Sarah Terrell of West Newton.⁵ Sarah and her husband, George W. Terrell, appear to have retired to Hanson, and lived here until 1926 when they sold the house to Ruth L. Baker of Wollaston.⁶ The former Ruth Lillian Ridings (1867-1939) had married Charles Thatcher Baker (1865-1934) in 1887 and the couple lived for most of their marriage in Quincy, where Charles worked at various times as a bookkeeper, dry goods salesman, and rug salesman. After moving to Hanson, the family ran a poultry farm from the property along with their son, Howard W. Baker (1898-1990). Howard married Barbara Frances Robbins (1911-1999) of Hanson in 1935 and continued to run the poultry farm after his father's death. Howard and Barbara remained at 60 West Washington for the rest of their lives. Their heirs sold the property in 2003 to current owners Amy DeCristofaro and Christopher Kirley.

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⁵ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 1273, Page 34

⁶ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 1504, Page 150-1

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